

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 /076 W
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FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2158

USMISSION USUN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS GABORONE 1295

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV WA BC

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: PRES KHAMA ENDORSES WESTERN PROPOSAL

1. PRESIDENT SERETSE KHAMA TOOK OCCASION OF ANNUAL
CONFERENCE OF HIS RULING BDP PARTY IN SEROWE MAY 5 TO
ENDORSE PUBLICLY AND VIGOROUSLY THE WESTERN PROPOSAL ON
NAMIBIA. HIS AUDIENCE INCLUDED GOB MINISTERS, DIPLOMATIC
CORPS (INCLUDING SOVIET AMBASSADOR AND PRC CHARGE) AND
ESTIMATED 1500 PARTY MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS. WE BELIEVE
PRES KHAMA'S SPEECH CONSTITUTES FIRST PUBLIC, UNQUALIFIED
SUPPORT FOR CG PROPOSAL FROM AN AFRICAN OR NON-ALIGNED
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COUNTRY. FULL TEXT OF KHAMA'S REMARKS ON NAMIBIA FOLLOW;
THEY INCLUDE POINTED CRITICISM OF SWAPO "FOR DEMANDING MORE
NEGOTIATIONS AND MORE CLARIFICATIONS INSTEAD OF ACCEPTING
VICTORY" AND PREDICTION THAT SWAPO'S INTRANSIGENCE "COULD GET
SOUTH AFRICA OFF THE HOOK".

2. TEXT OF EXCERPTS ON NAMIBIA:

QUOTE WHAT I HAVE SAID ABOUT RHODESIA MUST BE SAID ABOUT NAMIBIA. HERE, TOO, I WANT TO BE AS FRANK AS I CAN. A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIAN CONFLICT HAS NEVER BEEN SO NEAR AS IT IS NOW AND YET IT SEEMS SO FAR SIMPLY BECAUSE ONE PARTY TO THAT CONFLICT HAS NOT MADE UP ITS MIND WHETHER OR NOT PEACE SHOULD COME TO NAMIBIA NOW OR IN SOME DISTANT FUTURE. FOR THE PAST SIXTY YEARS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS BEEN TRYING TO FORCE SOUTH AFRICA TO END ITS ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA. SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOW AGREED TO DO SO, THANKS TO THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF THE FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHOSE INITIATIVE HAS NOW PRESENTED THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE FORWARD IN PEACE AND FREEDOM.

EVERYBODY KNOWS HOW INTRANSIGENCE HAS NOW BEEN RELEGATED TO THE PAST BECAUSE LAST WEEK, CONTRARY TO THE EXPECTATIONS, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THE FIVE'S PLAN ON THE FUTURE OF NAMIBIA. IN OUR VIEW, THIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE PLAN REPRESENTS A VICTORY FOR SWAPO. IF SWAPO HAD NOT INTENSIFIED THE ARMED STRUGGLE, SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT HAVE MADE ANY CONCESSIONS; IT IS REGRETTABLE, HOWEVER, THAT SWAPO DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE AWARE OF THIS POINT.
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SWAPO IS NOW BEHAVING IN A MANNER THAT COULD GET SOUTH AFRICA OFF THE HOOK. INSTEAD OF ACCEPTING VICTORY, SWAPO IS STILL DEMANDING MORE NEGOTIATIONS AND MORE CLARIFICATIONS. TO SOME OF US MORE NEGOTIATIONS CAN ONLY MEAN MORE WASTED LIVES AND SUFFERING IN NAMIBIA IN A CONFLICT WHICH HAS NOW BEEN DEPRIVED OF ITS MORAL DRIVE BY SOUTH AFRICA'S CAPITULATION TO THE DEMANDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. END QUOTE

3. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS WITH PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON ZIMBABWE.
NORLAND

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NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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